



John Bannister

IHM Pastoral Council
Candidate

2019-2022 Term

My name is John Bannister and I am interested in serving on the Pastoral Council. My wife Kathy and I have been members of Immaculate Heart of Mary since 1985. We have 3 grown young men who attended IHM and currently have a 2nd grade grandson who attends IHM. I recently retired from coaching CYO basketball after 20+ years at the Cadet level and miss being actively engaged at IHM. I am the VP/GM of an IT Services organization, where I am responsible for all customer, employee and financial aspects of the business. I would like to apply the skills and experience associated with growing and operating my business and put them to good use at IHM. To me, IHM is more than our place of worship, it is a neighborhood institution and a gathering place of all that is good in Meridian Kessler. I would be honored to serve as a member of the Pastoral Council to do my part in helping IHM expand its reach and influence on the its members and the greater IHM community.



JoJo Murphy

IHM Pastoral Council
Candidate

2019-2022 Term

My name is JoJo Murphy. My husband Nick and I were married here at IHM and have been parishioners here for twenty five years. We have four children, Nicholas, Elizabeth, Joseph and Mary. Three of whom are graduates of IHM and one is a current sixth grader.

My roots run deep here at IHM. My mom and her four sisters grew up in this parish and attended IHM school. I attended St. Simon grade school and church as a child. I then moved to the North side when I married my husband and we joined IHM. My family and I feel truly blessed to be members of this special community.

I have enjoyed volunteering at the school for many years. My favorite volunteer position continues to be Teacher Appreciation Committee co-chair. Another volunteer experience that holds a special place in my heart is the IHM Honduras Mission Trip. I am fortunate to have been twice, and I am returning in July.

I am a Registered Nurse, which has significantly influenced my desire to help those in need as well as how I interact with others.

As my children are getting older, leaving the nest one by one, I find myself wanting to become more involved with the church side of IHM. I feel that being a member of the Pastoral Council would be a privilege as well as an opportunity for me to learn more about Immaculate Heart of Mary as a parish.
~Thank you



Liz Elias

IHM School Commission
Candidate

2019-2022 Term

My name is Liz Elias, and my husband, Jim, and I have two children who attend IHM: Nick (5th) and Mary (2nd). Jim and I are both lifelong Indianapolis residents and alums of its Catholic schools through grade 12, and we joined IHM when we moved to the neighborhood in 2006. We chose our house chiefly for its proximity to this community, as I grew up within walking distance of the Catholic school I attended for grades K-8, and we love the overlap in our church community and our neighborhood community. I received my undergraduate degree at Purdue and, after a stint in state government, redeemed myself in Fr. Bob's eyes by receiving my law degree from I.U. I have practiced law at Hall Render Killian Heath & Lyman for 13 years, where I help hospitals and health care providers understand and challenge Medicare, Medicaid, and other insurance laws. I have enjoyed being involved in the IHM community through my participation on multiple Illumination committees, serving as a Lector, participating in and facilitating the MOMS small groups, serving on the Mothers' Ministry Core team as the coordinator for Fr. Bob's Dinner Ministry, serving the PTO as Co-chair of the IHM School Yearbook production team, co-leader of the IHM Class of 2025's Brownie troop, and room parent.

We are incredibly lucky to have this supportive and active parish community wrapping its dedicated arms around our school. I would be grateful for an opportunity to serve on the School Commission to preserve that dedication to Catholic education by working to provide the students of our parish's school with strong academic, Catholic, and philanthropic-minded foundations, so they are well-positioned to be leaders in any community to which they are called in the future.



John Lawrence Hill
IHM School Commission
Candidate
2019-2022 Term

John Lawrence Hill has been an IHM parishioner since 2009. John is a law professor at Indiana University, Robert H. McKinney School of Law, where he teaches constitutional law, civil procedure and other classes. He has a law degree and a doctorate in philosophy from Georgetown University.

John's four children have been enrolled as students in IHM over the course of the last fifteen years. His youngest and only remaining child at IHM, Devin Hill, will be in the fifth grade next school year, 2019-20. He lives in the neighborhood, a block from IHM, He hopes to bring his knowledge of the workings of the law to assist on the School Commission and welcomes the opportunity to take part in other sub-committees as necessary.



Jennifer Kappes
IHM School Commission
Candidate
2019-2022 term

My name is Jennifer Kappes and I want to be one of your representatives on the IHM School Commission. As a former Outreach Commission Chair and Parish Council Representative from 2011-2015, I had the opportunity to witness many developing transformations in our parish including essential updated technologies, the transition to Ronda Swartz as school principal, and improved transparency and communications between the financial office, school, and church. These years in Parish Council meetings helped solidify my desire to send my children to Immaculate Heart of Mary School. I witnessed decisions, collaborations, and actions that were reflective of values that stand as pillars in my family, business and community work. I developed a deeper appreciation for the depth and talent of our parish, and further recognized that the school is just one of many tremendous parts to the parish. I wear many hats as a small business owner, and each job is critical to the success not only for my business, but the outcomes for my clients. With each role I take, I always seek to understand, admire and embrace differences, commit to doing the hard work, and communicate with appropriate transparency. At every table, I bring a strong commitment to goals and outcomes, and a desire to seek best practices while focusing on the strengths and uniqueness of each client and situation.

My husband, Dan Belcher, and I have been parishioners at Immaculate Heart since 2008. Our oldest, William, attends Northwestern University. Luke and Grace both attend school at IHM. I have an undergraduate degree in nursing from Xavier University and a master's degree in social work from Indiana University. I am the proud owner and creator of Choosing Home, a geriatric and end of life care management business that fosters the opportunity to continue life at home for as long as possible. One of my favorite things for the past 9 years at IHM has been organizing and participating in Healthy Haughville every year and watching my children, husband, and many friends come to participate to improve the lives of our fellow St. Anthony students, parishioners and Anna's House recipients.



Susan Paz

IHM School Commission
Candidate

2019-2022 term

My name is Susan Paz and I would like to become part of the Immaculate Heart of Mary School Commission. My husband Rob and I have been members of the IHM parish for over ten years and both of our boys, Alex in 6th grade and Gabriel in 2nd grade, attend IHM school. Prior to becoming a stay at home mom, my education is in science (BS in Biology at John Carroll University and MS in Microbiology at Miami University) and I worked in the biotech industry doing research in California and North Carolina.

Over the past ten years, I have been involved in a variety of areas in both the church and school. In the parish, I've participated in the Christ Renews His Parish retreat program, MOMs ministry serving as a group facilitator, the Arts and Environment committee setting up for Christmas and Easter masses and most recently, serving as a sponsor in the RCIA program. For the school, I've loved volunteering in the classroom for both boys, been a parent member of the Adult Lighthouse committee and have been on many PTO committees.

We have enjoyed the sense of community and support of friends in the parish and we are proud to send our children to a school that supports our Catholic faith and values. As a member of the School Commission, I would hope to continue our school's momentum in creating a rigorous academic environment, especially in science and math. Additionally, I feel strongly about the need to balance hard work in the classroom with plenty of time for exercise and provide kids positive ways to release energy during the school day, especially on the playground. Thank you for your vote as a member of the IHM School Commission.



Monica Brames

IHM Athletic Commission
Candidate

2019-2022 Term

Hi! My name is Monica Brames and I am running for Athletic Commission. My husband Nate and I have been parishioners at IHM for 9 years and have four children that all attend IHM - Carter and Drew (7th Grade), Anna (6th Grade) and Luke (1st Grade). We have been active in CYO sports since the boys were old enough to participate and love the access it gives our children to try out different activities in an encouraging environment grounded in Catholic values. While the kids have played I have also volunteered as a cheerleading and kickball coach and enjoy watching the kids grow in their sport. Outside of CYO sports, I am a USA Swimming official as well as the Treasurer for the Riviera Swim Team. I would love the opportunity to give back and serve on this commission.



Victoria Bratcher
IHM Athletic
Commission Candidate
2019-2022 Term

My name is Victoria Bratcher and I am interested in a role for the athletic commission. My husband and I joined IHM parish two years ago. We moved into the area from Chicago and are glad to have found a church home here. I've been looking for ways to get more involved in the church and school and think this opportunity would be a perfect fit for my passions to serve the IHM community. I played collegiate soccer and track and field for four years at Indiana Wesleyan University and have coached soccer for many years after graduation. One of the reasons for my interest is that I attended a small Christian school from kindergarten through 8th grade and had the amazing opportunity to play sports through the Christian athletics programs for youth. Because of those early opportunities I was able to pursue my passions and grow mentally, physically and spiritually. I have a passion for sports and understand the value that sport can bring to young people through building teamwork, resilience, and leadership skills. I recently had my first child, Mia, who was baptized at IHM last year. I am eager to see her grow and develop a love for sports like her father and I. I hope one day she will be able to attend IHM and receive a great education and participate in sporting activities.

Please consider me for this role as I would be very honored to serve. If you have any other questions, don't hesitate to reach out.